REMARKS

Claims 1 through 20 are currently pending in the application.

This amendment is in response to the final Office Action of May 28, 2004.

Information Disclosure Statement(s)

Applicants note the filing of three Information Disclosure Statements on September 15, 2003, February 24, 2004 and April 8, 2004 and note that copies of the PTO-1449s were not returned with the outstanding Office Action. Applicants respectfully request that the information cited on the PTO-1449 be made of record herein.

Double Patenting Rejection Based on U.S. Patent 6,632,736

Claims 1 through 20 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 through 10 of U.S. Patent 6,632,736. In order to avoid further expenses and time delay, Applicants elect to expedite the prosecution of the present application by filing a terminal disclaimer to obviate the double patenting rejections in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.321 (b) and (c). Applicants' filing of the terminal disclaimer should not be construed as acquiescence of the Examiner's double patenting or obviousness-type double patenting rejection. Attached is the terminal disclaimer and accompanying fee.

Applicants request entry of this amendment for the following reasons:

The amendment is timely filed.

The amendment places the application in condition for allowance.

The amendment does not require any further search or consideration.

Applicants request the allowance of claims 1 through 20 and the case passed for issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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